



# **Study Skills**

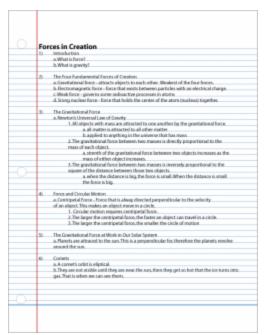
Study skills are essential to succeeding in high school and college. They allow you to maximize time while efficiently learning new material. There is no one right way to study. Your methods might vary due to class subject, difficult, or as you come to learn new strategies.

# **Note Taking Skill**

Note taking is important when developing your study skills. This is one of the main resources during studying and it should be structured in a way that helps that process. Here are some methods.

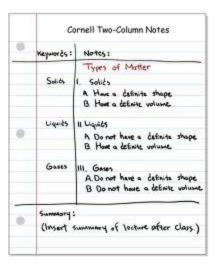
#### Linear Method

- > Take note notes by writing down important details and facts
- Notes are taken on lined paper indenting for different titles, sections, and details
- > You can use bullet pointed, roman numerals, color coding, etc. to organize and customize your notes
- > It is the "typical" type of bullet note taking



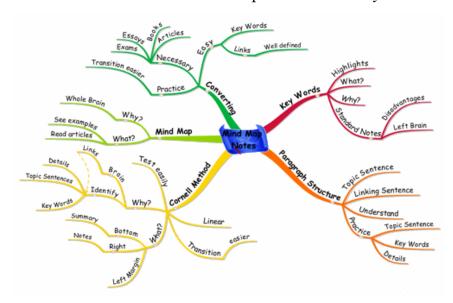
#### Cornell Method

- > Take notes by leaving a large space in the left side margin here add titles and questions.
- ➤ In the right section, write notes
- ➤ In the bottom of the page, write a summary of all the notes on that page



# • Note Mapping Method

- > Sometimes it is important to establish relationships and connections between different topics you are learning about
- > You can use the note mapping methods to connect ideas with visual lines.
- > Good for visual note takers and for topics that are heavily interconnected



### • Chart Note Taking

> This method organizes information by main or shared idea



# General Note Taking Tips

- > Familiarize yourself with the class content BEFORE the lecture/class. It will help you in picking out the most important information
- > DO NOT write things down word for word. As you are taking notes when you summarize ideas you are synthesizing and learning information.
- > Abbreviate words when you can.
- > Compare notes with others in the class. You might have misinterpreted or missed something all together.
- > Keep things neat so you can go back and understand the content.

## **Study Strategies**

This is a very personal process but it is important to use your resources to maximize your learning experience.

### Revising Notes

- ➤ Make sure you are **Actively Reading** highlighting/underlining important themes and details, read aloud, take notes in the margins, ask questions about what you're reading
- > Do not read passively do not just underline and highlight without it meaning something
- > Some people have a color coding system
- > I find it useful to add examples relating to pop culture and my personal life.
- > Summarize tough topics by writing using your own words, in everyday language

#### Flash Cards

- > Flash cards are a great way to study vocabulary terms
- > Paper flash cards can be good but Quizlet is a better alternative
  - It allows you to make traditional style flash cards but can also create practice exams, learn how to spell terms, and play games with the words
  - With the app all the flashcards are available on your phone making them more portable
  - Best of all, it is FREE!

## • Re-Writing Notes

- > Many people like to rewrite their notes in clean paper to study
- > It is a good strategy IF you interact with the content summarizing, writing in other words, adding examples, underlining
- > If you don't do this, you do not gain anything interaction with the material is key
- > Remember: the goal of this method is not to make your notes beautiful but to revise the information and work with it

#### Practice

- > For classes with problems you have to work out, it is often more useful to do practice problems
- > Utilize resources like Khan Academy, old exams, homework work out problems
  - You can gain a lot even if you know the answer because you still have to work out problem

#### • Test Yourself

- > use quizlet/flashcards/practice tests to quiz yourself and find out how much you really know
- > Compile practice problems and test yourself on them honestly
- Review wrong answers and compare them to right ones not what went wrong and what went right

# Make a Study Group

- > It always helps to study with others their weaknesses might be your strengths and vice versa
- > Don't be shy to approach people they might need help too!
- > It is a good way to make friends
- ➤ Make sure to **study individually before hand** this will help you explain concepts, contribute, and will benefit you overall
- > **Remember** sometimes they will be reviewing stuff you already know, be patient and contribute if you can. Study groups are about working together.

#### Teach Others

- > explain concepts to a friend to solidify your understanding
- ➤ This can be one-on-one or in a group setting

## • Other Tips

- > Avoid distractions, take breaks as needed, and remember to eat and drink water while studying!
- > Don't be afraid to ask for help! Teachers and counselors are great resources for helping you figure out what study methods work for you!
- > Study for small increments of time (15 30 mins) over day(s)/week(s) instead of for hours the day before

#### Resources

- Check out online guides to effective study tips:
  - ➤ Note Taking Source (used throughout this document) https://rmittraining.com/blog/note-taking-skills
  - https://www.connectionsacademy.com/resources/instructographics/high-school -study-tips
  - https://www.bethelsd.org/cms/lib/WA01918819/Centricity/Domain/3869/Stud y Skills BookletADA.pdf